



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

12 JULY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Anaheim – Strip Mall Explosion Possibly Caused By Illicit Drug Lab, Suspect Sought

(U) Police are searching for a suspect wanted in connection with an explosion at an Anaheim strip mall which may have been sparked by a drug lab. The explosion occurred on 9 July at a business in a strip mall, where crews were able to quickly extinguish a small exterior fire. Anaheim police are currently searching for a suspect witnesses said fled the scene on foot with “extensive burns” to the face, arms and legs. Police have named Frederic Taboara as a person of interest. Fire and police investigators are currently trying to determine if the explosion and resulting fire were caused by an illicit drug lab. Numerous cans of butane were found at the back of one of the businesses, and it appeared that someone was trying to extract honey oil.

SOURCE: 11 July 2019, [CBS Los Angeles](#)

(U) Coronado – US Coast Guard Seizes 40,000 Pounds of Drugs

(U) The US Coast Guard has offloaded tons of cocaine and marijuana seized from boats and even a semi-submarine in the Pacific. Vice President Mike Pence was present on 11 July as 39,000 pounds of cocaine and 933 pounds of marijuana were taken off the cutter Munro at Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado. The Coast Guard says the drugs have an estimated street value of \$569 million. The drugs were seized in 14 operations since May in international waters off Mexico and Central and South America. Fifty-five smuggling suspects were taken into custody.

SOURCE: 11 July 2019, [SF Gate](#)

(U) Los Angeles – FBI Investigating Secret Deputy Gangs in Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

(U) The FBI is investigating a secret society of tattooed deputies in East Los Angeles as well as similar gang-like groups elsewhere within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The federal probe follows allegations of beatings and harassment by members of ‘the Banditos’, a group of deputies assigned to the Sheriff's East LA station who brand themselves with matching tattoos of a skeleton outfitted in a sombrero, bandolier and pistol. The clique's members are accused by other deputies of using gang-like tactics to recruit young Latino deputies into their fold and retaliating against those who rebuff them. FBI agents are trying to determine whether leaders of the Banditos require or encourage aspiring members to commit criminal acts, such as planting evidence or writing false incident reports, to secure membership in the group.

SOURCE: 11 July 2019, [KTLA](#)

(U) Modesto – Authorities Serve Gang-Investigation Warrants In Large Multi-County Operation

(U) Several search and arrest warrants were served throughout Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties on 11 July, the Modesto Police Department reported. The operation by local, state, and federal agencies was the result of a long-term gang investigation, the department said. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and Ceres Police Department each assisted in the serving of warrants as part of the operation. The crackdown is part of an ongoing effort to combat the increase in crimes committed by members of the Norteno street gang, according to a statement from the Modesto Police Department. During their operations, authorities seized cash and firearms from suspected gang members.

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SOURCE: 11 July 2019, [Modesto Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois – 25 Gang Members Arrested In Major Drug Bust Operation

(U) Chicago – US prosecutors on 11 July said a software engineer has been indicted on charges he stole trade secrets from the suburban Chicago locomotive manufacturer where he once worked and took them to China. Xudong Yao, also known as William Yao, faces nine criminal counts in the indictment, which was unsealed this week in the federal court in Chicago. Yao, 57, is still at large and believed to be in China, according to prosecutors. According to the indictment, within two weeks of being hired in August 2014, Yao downloaded more than 3,000 files containing proprietary and trade secret information related to the operating system for his former employer's locomotives. Prosecutors said Yao soon began looking for a job in China, and kept downloading more trade secrets until February 2015, when he was fired for reasons unrelated to the theft, which had yet to be discovered. According to the indictment, Yao began working in China for a provider of automotive telematics service systems in July 2015, traveled to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport four months later with the stolen materials and later returned to China.

SOURCE: 11 July 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Indiana – Indiana brothers Indicted for Attempting to Support ISIS

(U) Indianapolis – A federal grand jury on 11 July indicted two Indiana brothers for allegedly attempting to provide firearms and other support to ISIS. Moyad Dannon, 21, and Mahde Dannon, 20, appeared in US District Court in Indianapolis, where they face various firearms-related charges and one count of attempting to provide material support and resources, including firearms, to the terrorist group. The younger Dannon was already awaiting trial on felony theft charges when he introduced his brother to a person working for the FBI in a scheme to provide firearms to the informant, the Justice Department said. The brothers agreed to make 55 more untraceable rifles they were told would be used by ISIS. They were arrested on 15 May during a sting. Both men face up to 10-years for each firearms charge and 20-years for attempting to provide support to a designated foreign terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 9 July 2019, [FOX](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Albania – Albanian Police Arrest Russian 'Islamic State Fighter'

(U) Tirana – A Russian national accused of fighting for ISIS against Syrian government forces was arrested in Albania and will be extradited to Russia, Albanian police said on 12 July. Police said the 34-year-old man, identified as R.M., who was born in and is a resident of Norilsk in Russia, entered Albania illegally after a court in Russia's Chechen Republic ruled in April 2015 he should be arrested for being part of a terrorist group. Albania's anti-terror unit had spent several months locating and identifying the Russian national wanted by Interpol Moscow.

SOURCE: 12 July 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Syria – Car Bomb Attack in Syrian Town Leaves Nine Dead, at least 35 Wounded

(U) Afrin – A car bomb exploded on 11 July at the entrance to a northern Syrian town controlled by Turkish forces and allied Syrian fighters, killing at least nine people, Turkish state media and Syrian rescuers said. The state-run Anadolu Agency said the bomb in a fuel truck exploded in Afrin, igniting a fire and causing considerable damage to the surrounding area. According to Syrian first responders, at least nine people were killed in the explosion and 35 were wounded.

SOURCE: 12 July 2019, [Associated Press](#)

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